

# TEEN DIVERSITY

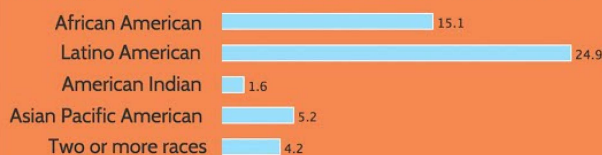
A snapshot of U.S. teens' diversity compiled by YALSA's cultural competencies task force



14% of the U.S. population is between the ages of 10-19.



## Nearly 50% of youth 0-17 are of color



## Hispanics are the largest and youngest minority population in the U.S.



Two-thirds of Latino youths were born in the U.S. Many are the descendants of the wave of Latin American immigrants who began coming to the U.S. around 1965.

About 17% of all Hispanics and 22% of all Hispanic youth ages 16 to 25 are unauthorized immigrants.

In 2011-2012, English language learners made up 14.2% of public school enrollment.



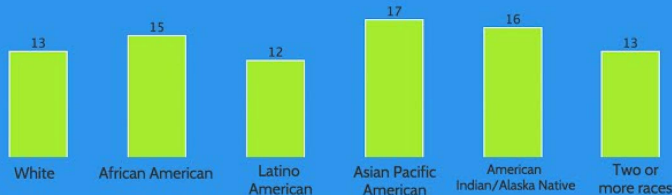
## POVERTY

In 2010, more than 16 million youth (22% of all youth) 18 and under lived below the federal poverty threshold (\$22,314 for a family of four in 2010.)



In 2007, nearly 25% of youth in both small and large rural areas lived below the federal poverty level compared to 17.3% of youth in urban areas.

13% of the total population of youth ages 3-21 are served under the Disabilities Education Act and span across all ethnicities.



## LGBTQI Teens

92% of LGBTQI teens say they have heard negative things about being LGBTQI.



They are 2X as likely to be physically assaulted, kicked, or shoved at school.

Approximately 20% of homeless youth are LGBTQI, which is disproportionately high, as only 10% of the general youth population identifies as LGBTQI.

In 2011, 61,423 youth under the age of 18 were in confinement.



39% of the homeless population is under the age of 18.



8% of the homeless population are unaccompanied minors under the age of 25.

## Looking for more?

For more information about teen demographics in your community, visit [this interactive map](#) from the Brookings Institute.

**yalsa**  
Young Adult Library  
Services Association  
[www.ala.org/yalsa](http://www.ala.org/yalsa)

Date of creation: March 14, 2015

Sources: U.S. Population: <http://www.actforayouth.net/adolescence/demographics/>.  
Teens of color: <http://www.childstats.gov/americaschildren/tables/pop3.asp?popup=true>.  
Latino Population: <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2009/12/11/between-two-worlds-how-young-latinos-come-of-age-in-america/>.  
English Language Learners: <http://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=96>.  
Youth Poverty: <http://mchb.hrsa.gov/chusa12/pc/pages/ruc.html>.  
Disabilities Education Act: [http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator\\_cgg.asp](http://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cgg.asp).  
LGBTQI: <http://www.hrc.org/youth/view-statistics>.  
<http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/lgbtq.html>.  
Incarceration: <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/42-youth-residing-in-juvenile-detention-correctional-and-or-residential-facilities#detailed/1/any/false/867,133,18,17,14/any/319,320>.  
<http://www.aecf.org/m/resource/doc/AECF-DataSnapshotYouthIncarceration-2013.pdf>.  
Homelessness: <http://endhomelessness.org/library/entry/the-state-of-homelessness-2014>.  
<https://www.dosomething.org/facts/11-facts-about-homeless-teens>.